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TITLE

RACHET LOCKING BRAKE FOR MEDICAL
DEVICES

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS (if applicable)

Not applicable.

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH &
DEVELOPMENT (if applicable)

Not applicable.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The preferred embodiments of the present invention generally relate to an apparatus for securing the positioning of a medical device.

10 It is desirable that medical personnel have access to mobile medical devices. This is especially true in hospitals, where patients may be transported between emergency rooms, operating rooms, x-ray facilities, patient rooms, and the like. Thus, it is common for medical devices to have wheel assemblies, such as caster wheels, to allow for easy movement of the device in any direction. However, it is also desirable that once the doctor or nurse has placed the device in its proper location that the device remains secure. For example, if a mobile surgical table moved during a
15 surgical procedure, it could cause the doctor to cut or damage vital organs. Likewise, a mobile X-ray unit must remain securely positioned so that the doctor will obtain the